

THE HOLY ROSARY in Stained Glass

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THE HOLY ROSARY in Stained Glass

REFLECTIONS ON THE MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

by

Reverend Francis J. Peffley Founding Pastor Holy Trinity Catholic Church Gainesville, Virginia

About the Author

Father Francis J. Peffley was born on March 16, 1963, in Norristown, Pennsylvania. He attended Penn Charter Quaker School in Philadelphia and is a 1986 graduate of Christendom College in Front Royal, Virginia. After receiving a Master's Degree in Divinity and a Master of Arts degree in Moral Theology from Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland, he was ordained May 19, 1990, by Bishop John R. Keating for the Arlington, Virginia diocese.

His diaconate assignment was at Sacred Heart of Jesus parish in Winchester, followed by parochial vicar assignments at Saint Andrew the Apostle and Saint Clare parishes in Clifton (1990-94), Our Lady of Angels in Woodbridge (1994-98), Saint Louis in Alexandria (1998-2000), and Saint Mary parish in Fredericksburg (2000-2001). He was appointed pastor of the Church of the Holy Trinity in Gainesville in June, 2001.

A popular speaker, Father Peffley is in demand as a retreat master and has made presentations at many parish and diocesan-sponsored events. He is Arlington diocesan spiritual director of the *Legion of Mary* (the largest lay apostolic organization in the world), and in 1997 led a group of young people, including Legion of Mary members, to World Youth Day in Paris. He is also well known for his juggling performances at schools and youth groups throughout the diocese.

As an author, his articles have appeared in such periodicals as the *Homiletic* and Pastoral Review, Queen of All Hearts magazine, Maria Legionis magazine and the Arlington Catholic Herald. He is author of the meditations on a rosary CD entitled, Through the Eyes of His Mother, which appear in this publication.

Father Peffley attributes his vocation to the holy priesthood of Christ to his parents, to his time at Christendom College and to his membership in the Legion of Mary.

Some Historical Notes

In honor of the Great Jubilee Year 2000, under the pontificate of the late Pope John Paul II, the Church of the Holy Trinity was established on June 27, 2001, by Bishop Paul S. Loverde as the 67th parish in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington. To begin the new parish, the diocese donated 21.3 acres of land on Linton Hall Road. Holy Trinity parish serves the growing Catholic population in Gainesville, Bristow, Haymarket and Nokesville, Virginia.

About the Windows

The stained glass windows included here were designed and manufactured by Ronald Dixon, artist, sculptor, painter and educator of Dixon Studio, Staunton, Virginia, specifically for the Church of the Holy Trinity, which includes in its structure twenty "Rosary Windows" depicting all twenty mysteries. Parishioners could consider this booklet, aside from its devotional value, as a keepsake of their parish to treasure as years go by.







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Reverend Paul F. deLadurantaye Censor Librorum

Imprimatur

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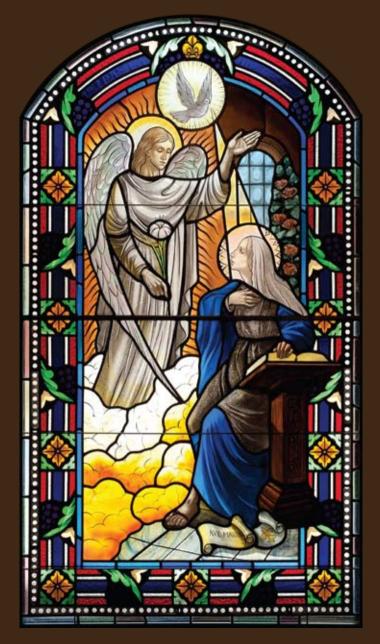
INTRODUCTION

Pope John Paul II called the Rosary "a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness," a "prayer loved by countless Saints and encouraged" by the Church. He called it his "favorite prayer," which accompanied him from the days of his youth to the peak of his Pontificate. He said the rosary is "an effective weapon against the evils afflicting our society", and one is inclined to think he compared this tiny collection of beads to the small smooth stones David used to defeat Goliath. It is a "summary of the gospels", he pointed out and now, with his gift of the additional five Luminous mysteries, we have a complete outline of the life of Christ, a Christ-centered prayer that leads us to contemplation – the contemplation with Mary of the human and beatific face of Christ.



JOYFUL MYSTERIES

Annunciation Visitation Nativity of Our Lord The Presentation in the Temple Finding of Jesus In the Temple





First Joyful Mystery

ANNUNCIATION

The Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a virgin, betrothed to a man named Joseph, and the virgin's name was Mary. He said, "Hail full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women... Behold you shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Jesus." Mary responded, "I am the handmaid of the Lord... Let it be done unto me according to your word."



ANNUNCIATION

After the fall of the human race caused by Adam, under the shadow of Eve, the world waited in darkness for the coming of its Redeemer. Waiting in this darkness was a young woman, the new Eve, who encountered angelic light and reversed the Fall. Gabriel was God's ambassador offering the world a peace treaty with Mary representing the human race. Mary trusted in God's plan for our salvation and while the fate of humanity hung on her response, she readily sang 'yes' to Gabriel's request. Her word brought God's Word into our earthly history, for the "Word became flesh" and Mary became the Mother of God and our spiritual mother. She is our model of faith, trust and joyful acceptance of the will of God.

In this mystery we pray for the virtue of joyful abandonment to His holy will.





SECOND JOYFUL MYSTERY

VISITATION

Mary set out in haste and went into the hill country to Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."



VISITATION

The news that her elderly, barren cousin Elizabeth enclosed new life within her sent Mary like a sudden breeze across the distant hills; she too held within her, not only new life, but the Life of all life. She becomes the first evangelist, bringing light and life and love to her expectant cousin. Here the testaments – old and new – merge, as the two mothers and two hidden infants meet, and Jesus works His first of countless miracles of grace and John the Baptist leaps to sanctity! Thus an unborn child became the first to recognize the promised Messiah.

We pray for a deeper respect for the sanctity of human life at every stage and the grace to end abortion.





THIRD JOYFUL MYSTERY

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

In those days Caesar Augustus published a decree ordering a census of the world... Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to David's town of Bethlehem to register with Mary, his espoused wife, who was with child... She gave birth to her first born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manager because there was no room for them in the place where travelers lodged.



NATIVITY

As the Savior of the world would say in years to come, there was no place to lay His head, so did His life on earth begin. In Bethlehem, the City of David, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords had no place in which to be born, nowhere to lay His head. The over-crowded inns were full of noise and chaos, forcing this family of saints to settle in a rugged cave where animals were stabled. Jesus, the Bread of Life, born in a city whose name means "house of bread" and cradled in a feeding bin for animals, reminds us that one day, from the manger of His Church, He would become the sacred Food to feed a starving world.

We pray for an increased hunger and devotion for Jesus, the Bread of Life in the Holy Eucharist.





Fourth Joyful Mystery

The Presentation in the Temple

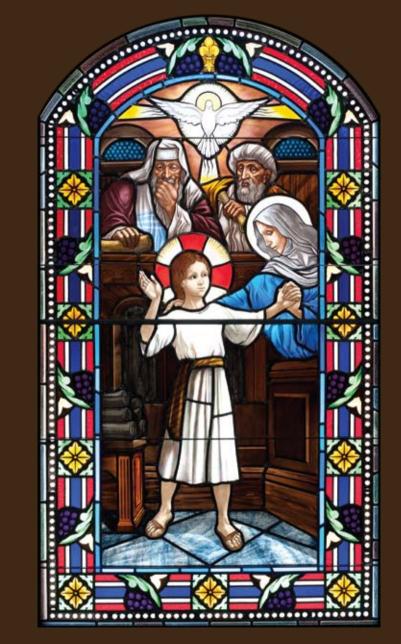
When the day came for them to be purified according to the law of Moses, the couple took Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord, for it is written..."Every first born male shall be consecrated to the Lord"...Simeon took Him in his arms and blessed God and said, "Now Master you can dismiss your servant in peace for my eyes have seen Your Salvation." And he said to Mary His Mother, "This child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, a sign that will be contradicted... and a sword of sorrow will pierce your own soul."



Presentation

Jesus the Redeemer had no need to be redeemed, and Mary, the Immaculate Conception no need to be purified, yet the Holy Family willingly obeyed the Mosaic law and brought their doves and deep devotion to the temple of the Lord. But what if – by some impossibility – they had claimed their freedom from the law and had not made the journey to the Temple? Simeon, then, would not have known he had held the longed-for Messiah in his ancient arms or in that sweet child's face had seen the face of God; and Mary, whose whole heart yearned to suffer along with the suffering Redeemer would have lived her life without her special emotional cross, for she would not have met until Calvary the sword her soul was destined to receive.

We pray for a persevering fidelity to the laws of God and His Church.





FIFTH JOYFUL MYSTERY

FINDING OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

When Jesus was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When they were on their way home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem without the parents knowing it... three days later they found Him in the temple. He was sitting among the doctors listening to them and asking them questions. Mary said, "My child, why have you done this to us? See how worried your father and I have been looking for you. Jesus replied, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I would be about my Father's business?" He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them.



FINDING IN THE TEMPLE

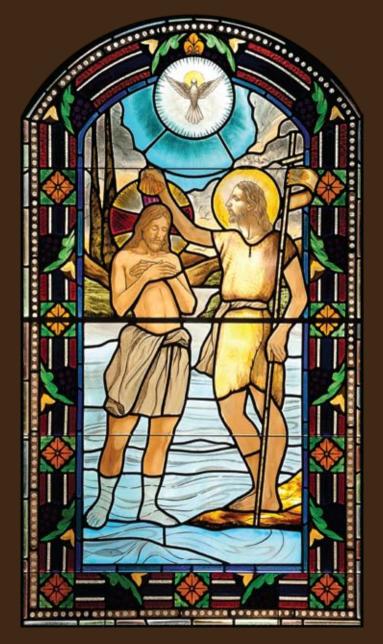
In the eyes of all, Joseph was a father, and of the two agonized parents searching for a lost son he must have suffered the greatest trial, for he knew it was his responsibility to raise this foster-child and protect the family God had given him. Now that Jesus had been found, he could have wondered if his fatherhood had failed. True, he had been there for them through the dreadful threat of Herod, and the long, homesick stay in Egypt; but then there were the joys of home where he taught Mary's Son his trade. We can picture now, that the Son who came from teaching Doctors of the Law and speaking of a greater Father's business, fondly takes his foster-father's hand and faces the road to home.

We pray for an increased devotion to St. Joseph and the spiritual welfare of families.



LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD IN THE JORDAN WEDDING FEAST OF CANA PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM TRANSFIGURATION THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST





FIRST LUMINOUS MYSTERY

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD IN THE JORDAN

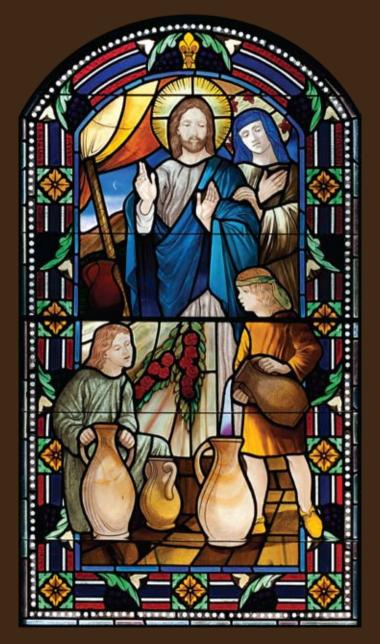
And when Jesus was baptized, He came up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and resting on Him, and a voice from heaven saying, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased."

~ . Mark 1

BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN

Just as Jesus, the Infant Redeemer, had not needed redemption, so Jesus, the adult Son of Man, did not need Baptism. Nevertheless, He had come to do the will of His Father and this was the next step. By submitting to John's baptism, He made known to his contemporaries His approval of the mission of the Baptist. He left us an example of humility and fidelity to the Father's will; He sanctified the waters of the sacrament of Baptism; and above all, He revealed the mystery of the Blessed Trinity, for there was the voice of the Father, the presence of Jesus, the beloved Son, and the descent of the Holy Spirit in the action of the Dove.

We pray for the grace to faithfully live our Baptismal promises and to realize the presence of the Blessed Trinity in our souls.





Second Luminous Mystery

WEDDING FEAST AT CANA

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the Mother of Jesus was there... Jesus' Mother told him, "They have no more wine." Jesus replied, "Woman, how does this concern me? My hour has not yet come." His Mother instructed those waiting on table, "Do whatever He tells you."... "Fill the jars with water," Jesus ordered. The waiter in charge tasted the water made wine and said, "What you have done is kept the choice wine until now."

~ John 2

WEDDING FEAST OF CANA

Our Lord's first public miracle occurred at the request of His Mother, in spite of His reluctance to begin a public ministry at that time. Yet, for the surprising reason of merely saving a newly-wedded couple some embarrassment, He allows His divine power to turn plain water into choice wine, a miracle that prefigures the Last Supper when He will turn wine into His own precious Blood. This wedding scene is a simple cameo of everyday human living with its common sorrows and joys, but it holds mystical implications as well, for it tells us that Jesus and His Mother are concerned, not only with the great events of the world and the tragedies of life but, perhaps remembering their own little home in Nazareth, the simple ordinary things as well.

We pray for the strengthening of marriages through Mary's intercession.





Third Luminous Mystery

PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM

Jesus came into Galilee preaching the gospel of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

~ . Mark 1

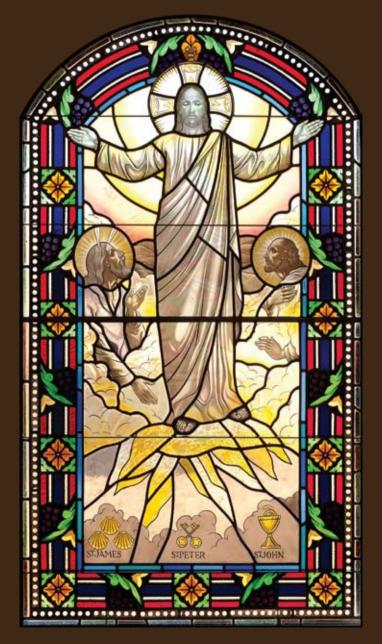
"He toured all of Galilee. He taught in the synagogues, proclaimed the good news of the Kingdom, and cured the people of every disease and illness."

~ . Matthew 1

PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM

In this mystery, we meditate on the public life and mission of Our Lord. He is the Light of the World and He teaches the way to salvation by preaching and healing. He left us the Parables, the Beatitudes, an amazing record of countless miracles, and ultimately the Church itself, which is the continuation of His life through human history. In Galilee, He proclaimed the Kingdom of God to be at hand and called everyone to conversion of heart. By establishing His Church and the Sacraments as the means of Salvation, His mercy and forgiveness continue down the years, flowing into our lives through the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist.

We pray for true conversion of heart and the grace to live Christ's sacramental life.





Fourth Luminous Mystery

TRANSFIGURATION

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart from themselves. And He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them, along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

~. Mark 9

TRANSFIGURATION

In this mystery Christ, the Light of the World, dazzles the senses of the three apostles. Peter, James and John are granted a glimpse of glory, a favored look through a window of wonder where the reality of the Divine nature is like the sun to their eyes and the two Old Testament figures of Moses, the Lawgiver, and Elijah, the Prophet, startle and numb their consciousness. Now, the sprawled, dumbstruck disciples have been prepared and strengthened to endure the Lord's coming Passion and to embrace His future resurrected glory.

We pray for enlightened faith that sees through the veil of nature to the reality of Divine life.





FIFTH LUMINOUS MYSTERY

INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

During the meal He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. "Take this," He said. "This is my Body." He likewise took a cup, gave thanks and passed it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my Blood, the Blood of the Covenant, to be poured out on behalf of many."

~. Mark 11

INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

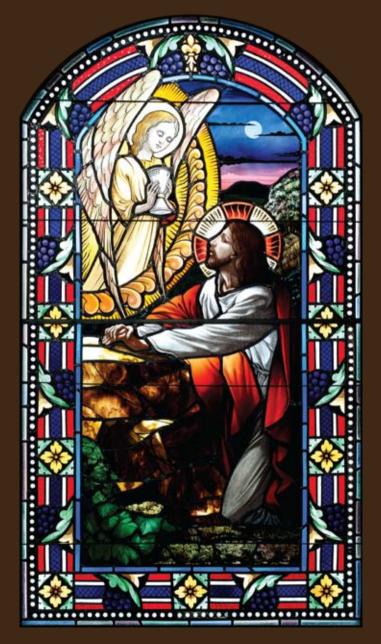
On the night before He died, Jesus surrounded Himself with His apostles and ordained them to His sacred priesthood, giving them an example of service by humbly washing their feet. This supper – called 'The Last Supper' – was in a sense the 'First Supper', for it was the first of countless times when it would be re-presented through the centuries. When He took bread and wine and changed them into His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity, saying "Do this in memory of me," they received the power to do the same, to change the bread and wine into Himself. This greatest of His miracles is continued by His faithful priests into our era and beyond.

We pray for greater reverence for Christ in the Eucharist and in the priesthood.



SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Agony in the Garden Scourging at the Pillar Crowning with Thorns Carrying of the Cross The Crucifixion





FIRST SORROWFUL MYSTERY

Agony in the Garden

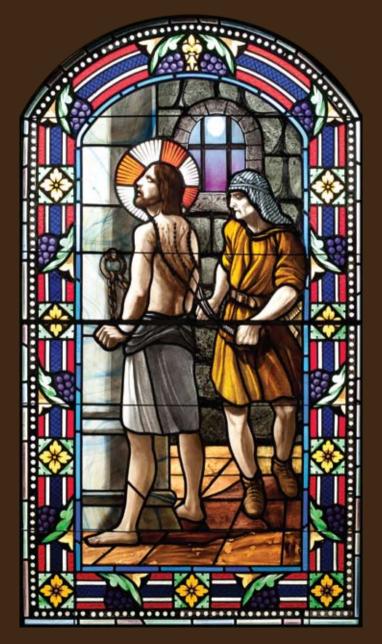
Jesus came with them to Gethsemane and sadness came over Him and great distress. He said, "My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me." He withdrew from them and knelt down and prayed, "Father, if it be Your will, take this cup from me but not my will but Thine be done." Then an angel appeared to Him coming from Heaven to give Him strength. His sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood; then He came back to his Disciples and found them sleeping.



Agony in the Garden

In the mystery of the Agony in the Garden, our Lord, Purity and Holiness personified, takes on the guilt of every soul, and being infinite, assumes the detailed intimacy of each human existence living now or yet to be. Sin's despicable ugliness, its passions, its self-love sears His being with pressure and pain so great, He begins to sweat blood. May our prayer, effort and sacrifice give Our Lord comfort and consolation as He lives on in His suffering Mystical Body.

We pray for true sorrow for our sins and the grace never to sin again.





Second Sorrowful Mystery

SCOURGING AT THE PILLAR

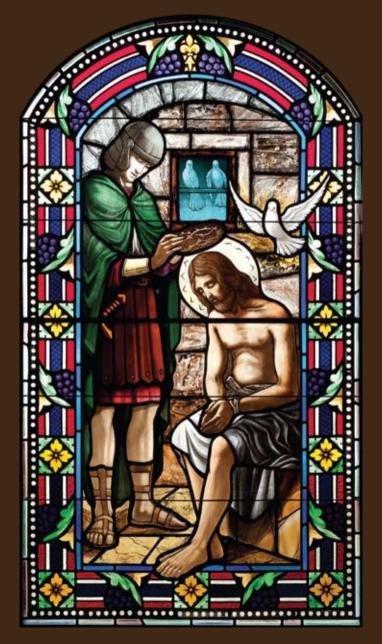
They had Jesus bound and handed Him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned Him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus replied, "Mine is not a kingdom of this world but, yes, I am King..." Pilate said to the crowd, "I find no case against Him so I shall have Him flogged and then let Him go. Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged.

~ John 18, Mark 15

SCOURGING

After the bloody sweat in Gethsemane Our Lord's flesh was supersensitive to pain: just to be touched was unspeakable torment; only unconditional Divine Love could have endured it. In this mystery, the infinite majesty of God undergoes humiliation and torture; the eternal creator of all flesh is cruelly lashed for our sins and the omnipotent owner of the universe pays the price for all those who strip their souls of sanctifying grace through mortal sin. As Isaiah the prophet wrote: "He was wounded for our iniquities and bruised for our sins."

We pray for decency, modesty and purity in our families and in society.





THIRD SORROWFUL MYSTERY

CROWNING WITH THORNS

The soldiers led Him away to the Praetorium. Then they stripped Him and dressed Him in purple. And having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on His head and placed a reed in His right hand. To make fun of Him, they knelt to Him saying, "Hail King of the Jews!" And they spat on Him and took the reed and struck Him on the head.

~ Matthew 27

CROWNING WITH THORNS

Ancient Rome, notorious for its circuses, gladiators, and love of vile sport, focused its demonic attention, by way of coarse and hardened soldiers, upon one defenseless prisoner in Pilate's court: the allseeing eyes of Divinity, caked with blood, were blindfolded; and the unreachable and unapproachable God was spat upon and ridiculed. This insult and mockery endured by the King of Kings and Judge of the World sent waves of reparation down the years and through the cells and members of His Mystical Body, and atoned for our sins of thought: pride, vanity, envy and disbelief. He had preached the maxim to bear wrongs patiently and ultimately gave us the supreme example in this mystery.

We pray for the courage to witness to Christ and His Church despite insult, ridicule and persecution.





Fourth Sorrowful Mystery

CARRYING OF THE CROSS

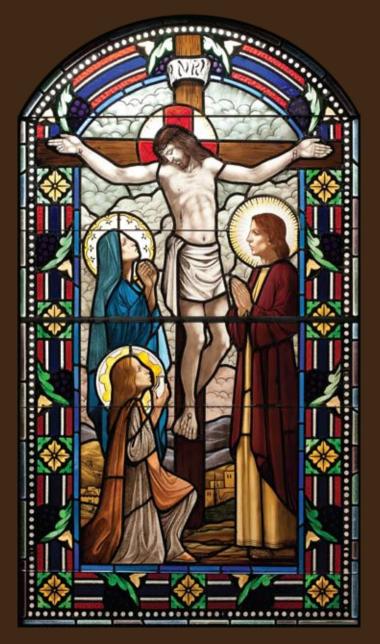
And carrying His own cross they led Him out to crucify Him... And they seized on a man, Simon of Cyrene, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus...Large numbers of people followed Him and women too, who mourned and lamented Him. He turned to them and said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children."

~ John 19, Luke 23

CARRYING OF THE CROSS

Our Divine Savior, condemned to death, was made to lay the heavy, awkward crossbeam along His wounded shoulders and carry it the sad distance to Calvary. He fell several times under its unwieldy weight, but we see Him always getting up, not giving up. Like Simon of Cyrene, we, too, are called to see the Lord in our burdened neighbor and help Him bear His cross. As the suffering and cross-laden Jesus gently treated the sorrowing women with attention and sympathy, we also, whether under the shadow of discouragement, or caught in the throes of trial, are expected to concern ourselves with the weeping and sorrowing souls in our lives, the people whom God's Providence places in our path or has knocking on our door. For self-forgetfulness and concern for others is the saw that can cut our crosses in half.

We pray for the grace to help others carry their cross and to shoulder our own with acceptance and even joy.





FIFTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY

THE CRUCIFIXION

Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother and the disciple He loved. Jesus said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son." Then to the disciple He said, "Behold your mother..."



THE CRUCIFIXION

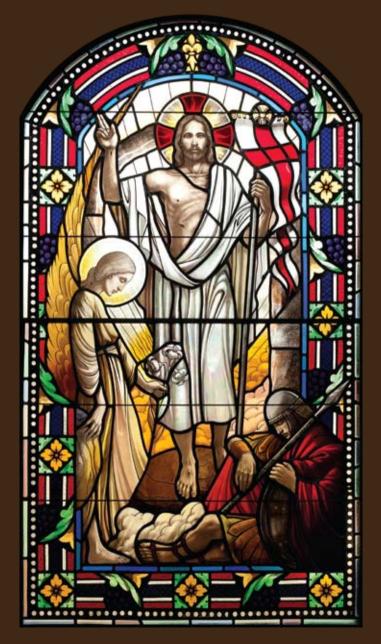
Just as at the Transfiguration when Jesus had at His side Moses and Elijah, now at Calvary there stand Mary and John; Mary the mother of His human life and partner in His mission, and John, apostle of His coming kingdom and seer of His future eternal domain. Moses and Elijah had spoken with Jesus about His coming death, but Mary and John knew it firsthand. And as He hung between heaven and earth reconciling humanity to His Father, He gives to His mother, in the person of John, the gift of that humanity, and Jesus gives to us Mary, His mother, nurturer of the Christlife and His partner in the Redemption.

We thank God for the gift of His mother and her constant, unfailing intercession.



GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

RESURRECTION ASCENSION DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ASSUMPTION CORONATION





FIRST GLORIOUS MYSTERY

RESURRECTION

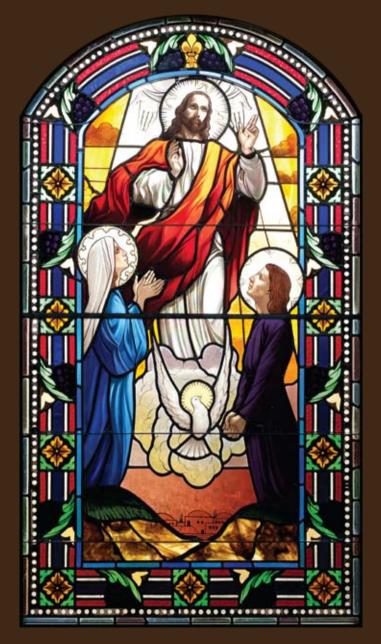
At the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared...and all at once the angel of the Lord, descending from Heaven came and rolled away the stone...

~ Luke 24. Matthew 28

RESURRECTION

Many of us remain at the foot of the cross long after the Lord has been taken down and placed in the tomb. We recall His passion and death and try to enter into His suffering by our prayers and meditation, striving for some sense of union with Him. This is admirable, but hard to do; meditation and, even love of the story of the cross, without conscious awareness of the rolled-away stone, will not make complete Christians. It is true that "dying He destroyed our death", but what He told Martha and Mary, He tells us today: "I am the Resurrection and the Life!" Death must always be a passing phase, but resurrected life endures forever.

We pray for faith in Christ's promise of our resurrection on the last day.





SECOND GLORIOUS MYSTERY

ASCENSION

Jesus took them out as far as Bethany and lifting up His hands He blessed them and said, "Go therefore and make Disciples of all the Nations; baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit... He who believes and is baptized will be saved. He who does not believe will be condemned... and know I am with you always, even to the end of time... As He said this, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him from their sight...to take His place at the right hand of the Father.

~ Luke 24, Matthew 28

Ascension

These words are the last will and testament of the Son of God. After spending forty days instructing His apostles, He commissioned them to preach the Gospel to every creature, to evangelize the entire world and to incorporate souls into His Church through Baptism. The apostles have done what the Lord intended for them, but they were not the only family included in the will; we, too, are solemnly mandated to spread the faith and share it with everyone we meet.

We pray for the grace and courage to be true evangelists.





THIRD GLORIOUS MYSTERY

Descent of the Holy Spirit

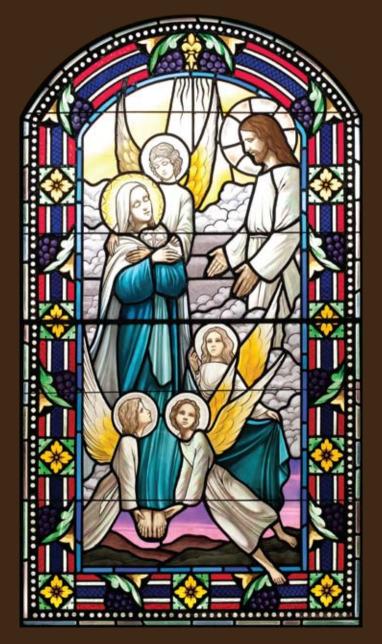
When Pentecost day arrived they all were gathered in one room. Suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from Heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house. And something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these descended and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak about the marvels of God.

~ Acts 2

Descent of the Holy Spirit

After the amazing experience of the Ascension, the apostles, with mixed reactions of joy, sadness and uncertainty, joined Our Lady in the cenacle and together made the first novena. For nine days they were submerged in a pool of prayer, adoration and supplication; Mary, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, calm and majestically still, gazed inward with expectant waiting, knowing she would soon give birth again. There was the diamond light of the great star at her first maternity, steady and brilliant in a still night sky, but now there was the flash of fire, conquering wind and ecstasy! It was the birthday of the Catholic Church! Wrapped round by Mary's motherly arms and Spirit-filled, the Infant Church, with its heart shocked by courage and its voice tuned to Truth, advanced upon the world.

We pray that we, too, may be transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit and the prayers of Our Lady to love the Church and proclaim the Gospel.





FOURTH GLORIOUS MYSTERY

Assumption

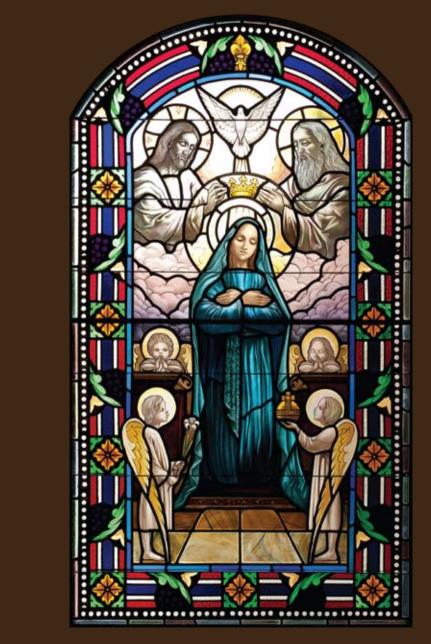
Hear, O daughter, and see, turn your ear, for the king shall desire your beauty. All glorious is the king's daughter as she enters; her raiment is threaded with spun gold.



Assumption

The day the Blessed Virgin left this earth was the fulfillment of the Father's plan for her; the new Eve was in her garden of paradise with Christ, the second Adam. Now the destiny of human nature was complete, for the first fruit of Christ's redemptive work – the entrance into heaven of a human being, body and soul – was accomplished in Our Lady's glorified state. She was exempt from the need to await the general resurrection at the end of time for she had been the chaste temple of the Lord, sinlessly preserved from corruption and decay. She lives now as model of our future life: happiness in paradise, possessed of a glorified body free of the ability to suffer or to sin.

We pray for the grace of a holy and well prepared death and sincere desire for heaven.





FIFTH GLORIOUS MYSTERY

CORONATION

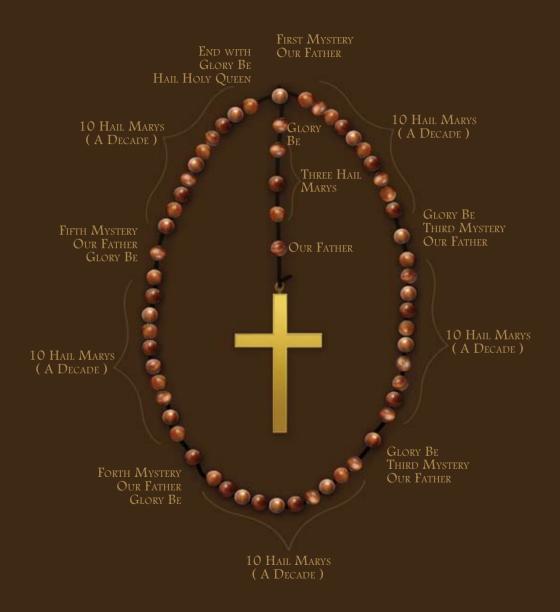
And the sanctuary of God in Heaven opened. Then came flashes of lightning and peals of thunder. Now a great sign appeared in Heaven: a woman clothed with the sun. She was standing on the moon, with a crown of twelve stars on her head.

 \sim Revelation. 12

CORONATION

Before she was born, from all eternity in the mind of God, Mary was the chosen one called to make possible the salvation of our fallen race. She had been called; she totally concurred; and now she is crowned. The maiden of Galilee, who said yes to impossibility, is now the proven channel of miracles for all the earth; the homeless mother of Bethlehem who gave birth to her creator is now Queen of Heaven and Earth; the wife and widow of Nazareth is now the spotless bride of the Holy Spirit; the woman of seven sorrows is now Comforter of the Afflicted and wears a crown of twelve stars. God has promised to those who do His will unimaginable rewards, exquisite and unending, proportioned to the holiness achieved here on earth. Each of us has been given a call, and opportunities to concur, so that – just like Our Lady – we may one day receive the crown destined for us.

We pray for a tender and true devotion to Mary and confident trust in her motherly intercession.





Origin of the Rosary

The Rosary is a form of combined prayer and meditation that has been around for over 1200 years. The origin of the rosary dates back to the ninth century when Irish monks would recite and chant the 150 Psalms of the Bible as a major part of their prayers. People living near the monasteries were drawn towards this beautiful and harmonious devotion, and they became very eager to join in with the monks' prayers. The Rosary of the Virgin Mary, which gradually took form in the second millennium under the guidance of the Spirit of God and St. Dominic, is a prayer loved by countless Saints and encouraged by the Magisterium. Simple yet profound, it still remains, at the dawn of this third millennium, a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness. It blends easily into the spiritual journey of the Christian life, which, after two thousand years, has lost none of the freshness of its beginnings and feels drawn by the Spirit of God to set out into the deep in order once more to proclaim, and even cry out, before the world that Jesus Christ is Lord and Saviour.

I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty. He shall come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.



OUR FATHER, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

HAIL MARY, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen. GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN, Mother of mercy; our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us. And after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.



O MY JESUS, Forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of Hell; lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy. Amen.

O GOD, WHOSE only-begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech Thee, that by meditating on these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

"OF ALL PRAYERS THE ROSARY IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL AND THE RICHEST IN GRACES; OF ALL IT IS THE ONE WHICH IS MOST PLEASING TO MARY, THE VIRGIN MOST HOLY. THEREFORE, LOVE THE ROSARY AND RECITE IT EVERY DAY WITH DEVOTION"

ST. PIUS X



The mission of the Church of the Holy Trinity is to lead all parishioners to Heaven and to the Beatific Vision of the Blessed Trinity.

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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